

Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee
Virginia Board for Towing and Recovery Operators
April 3, 2007

Final Minutes

The meeting of the Licensing and Regulatory Affairs Committee of the Board for Towing and Recovery Operators was convened at 12:15 p.m. on April 3, 2007 in Conference Room 702 at Department of Motor Vehicles Headquarters in Richmond, Virginia.

Members present

Charlie Brown, Chair
Curtis Hardison
Woody Herring
Ray Hodge
Ray Drumheller
Gary Teter
Roy Boswell

Members absent

Ron Miner

Staff present

Benjamin Foster, Executive Director
Daphane Phillips, Administrative Assistant

Others in attendance

Robert R. Young, Lynn Horn, Matt Benka, James Pickral, Travis Hill, Bruce Eagle, Roger Kendrick, Edward S. Hudson, Rhonda Lee and Bruce Keeney.

Recording Minutes

Daphane Phillips

Comments from the Public

Sam Hudson of Chesterfield stated that he is a small operator and that he was informed the regulations will be asking him to go up to a medium duty tow operator. He said that there are 26 tow operators in Chesterfield. If this is passed there will be only six and they can't handle the load. He was under the impression that the smaller business will be done away by larger towing companies. **Ray Drumheller** stated that **Mr. Hudson** was

speaking of a meeting that was held in Lynchburg by a group of tow operators. **Bruce Keeney** (VATRO) stated that any recommendation from the Board is in no way going to put the smaller tow truck operators out of business. **Executive Director Foster** stated that this Board is only interested in establishing minimum levels of practices and standards. Regulation of this profession is the establishment of professional and ethical standards for safety reasons.

Bruce Eagle with Eagle Board & Equipment wanted to know if the Board will regulate equipment. **Charlie Brown** informed **Mr. Eagle** that the Board is only concerned about the standards of the towers operations.

Minutes

Chairman Brown had correction from the minutes of the last meeting. The time was 12:32 p.m. not 12:32 a.m. and **Ron Miner** was in attendance at the last meeting.

Ray Drumheller made the motion to accept the changes to the minutes, seconded by **Lt. Curtis Hardison**, and unanimously approved by the Committee. **Executive Director Foster** will get a hard copy of the changes.

Old Business

Chairman Brown stated that **Ron Miner** had provisions that were written on out of state tow trucks. **Executive Director Foster** said that he had not received any materials from **Mr. Miner**. **Mr. Brown** will have the provisions at the next Board meeting.

New Business

Chairman Brown would like to have the draft Practice Regulations ready for the upcoming meeting. There was discussion on who would fall under these regulations. Should it be “just for hire companies” or any driver that operates a tow truck? Should it include the guy that just tows his own dealership vehicles or the driver that tows his personal vehicle? **Gary Teter** opined that a lot of companies are abusing deal tags.

Lt. Hardison wanted to know if other states required a test for licensure. **Executive Director Foster** stated that only Louisiana required licensure and as far as he knew that did not require any type of examination. **Mr. Foster** also pointed out that the Code of Virginia specifies that the Board will require an examination for licensure. However, the Code doesn’t specify what type of examination must be given or what skills, knowledge, or ability said examination must test.

Meeting was adjourned at 1:28 p.m. by **Gary Teter**, seconded by **Ray Drumheller**.

Minutes approved

Date

Charlie Brown, Chair

Benjamin Foster, Executive Director